AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing Of Claims:

1.   (Currently Amended) An adaptive learning system for presenting an appropriate topic and question to a user, said system comprising:

a processor configured to:

generate and store in a database a set of hierarchical topics having a plurality of questions associated with each one of said topics; each of said plurality of questions within a topic having an assigned difficulty level value;

determine an adjustable state level value for a user based on said user's topic performance consistency; said state level initialized to and having a range of predetermined value;

determine an adjustable water level value for said user based on said user's proficiency in at least a subset of said hierarchical topics; said water level initialized to and having a range of predetermined value;

determine a relevant topic for said user from said set of hierarchical topics by performing the following:

cull said set of hierarchical topics to determine one or more eligible academic topics; and

evaluate for relevance said one or more eligible academic topics using heuristic relevance ranking to determine said relevant academic topic;

determine an appropriate question for said user from said plurality of relevant academic topic questions by performing the following:

determine said user's water level,

search said database for one or more questions within a threshold range from said user's water level,

randomly select a relevant question from this one or more questions,

depending on the user's answer to said selected question <u>and on said user's current state level</u>, adjust said user's water level according to a predetermined adjustment table.

2.   (Original) The system as in claim 1 wherein said processor is further configured to evaluate for relevance said one or more eligible academic topics using at least one of a Average Level Relevance heuristic, Eligibility Relevance heuristic, Static Multiplier Relevance heuristic, Contribution Relevance heuristic, Learning Dimension Repetition Relevance heuristic, Failure Relevance heuristic and Re-recommend Failure Relevance heuristic.

3.   (Original) The system as in claim 1 wherein said processor further defines a multiplier value m, said state level value is initialized to 3 and ranging from 1 to 6, said, water level value is initialized to 25 and ranging from 0 to 100 and said predetermined adjustment table comprises:

State Level that said user is currently in:	Adjustment in water level when a question is answered correctly:	Adjustment of water level when a question is answered incorrectly:
1	+0m	−5m
2	+1m	−3m
3	+1m	−2m
4	+2m	−1m
5	+3m	−1m
6	+5m	−0m

m = Multiplier

4.   (Currently Amended) The system as in claim 1 wherein said difficulty level value ranges from 1 to 100[[;]].

5.   (Original) The system as in claim 1 wherein said threshold range is from ±0 to ±5.

6.   (Original) The system as in claim 1 wherein said threshold range is greater than ±5.